been made on actual work done basis and no payment has been made on forged bill.

(d) No irregularity has been committed and as such question of transfer of any official or inquiry does not arise.

(e) and (f) Do not arise in view of reply given to part (d) above.

Leasing rights to French Company for exploration of bauxite ores

2525. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the global corporate Pechiney of France has sought leasing rights from the Government of India for exploration of bauxite ores; and

(b) if so, how soon their application will be processed and leasing rights issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No proposal has been received from the State Government of Orissa or from any other State Government for grant of mining lease for mineral bauxite in favour of Pechiney of France.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Promoting foremen to the posts of engineer in various projects of NCL

†2526. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the foremen engaged in the various projects of the Northern Coalfields Limited, Singrauli have been working on the same post for the last twenty years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the vacant posts of engineers (E-2)

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.